

**Introduced by Senators Corbett and Steinberg**  
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Feuer)

August 25, 2010

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 126—Relative to Chief Justice Ronald M. George Justice Center.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 126, as introduced, Corbett. Chief Justice Ronald M. George.

In honor of the service of Ronald M. George as the Chief Justice of California, this measure designates the Civic Center Complex, comprised of the Earl Warren Building and the Hiram W. Johnson State Office Building, located at the Civic Center Plaza in the City and County of San Francisco, as the Ronald M. George Justice Center.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Ronald M. George has distinguished himself as  
2 an exceptional Chief Justice of California, responsible for achieving  
3 unprecedented improvements in the administration of justice in  
4 our state, and is acknowledged as a jurist dedicated to the rule of  
5 law, intellectual rigor, impartiality, integrity, and judicial  
6 excellence in all its forms; and  
7 WHEREAS, Since assuming office as California's 27th Chief  
8 Justice in 1996, Ronald M. George has provided visionary,  
9 inspirational, and collaborative leadership that has been pivotal in  
10 the transformation of California's court system into a truly  
11 statewide system with the unifying goal of equal access to fair and  
12 consistent justice for all in every venue in the state; and  
13 WHEREAS, Chief Justice George worked tirelessly with the  
14 Legislature, and successive Governors, as well as within the

1 judicial branch, to maintain strong and cooperative working  
2 relationships that were essential to accomplishing the reforms that  
3 were central to the recognition and operation of our state judiciary.  
4 These efforts culminated in historic enactments resulting in state  
5 funding for the trial courts the unification of 220 municipal and  
6 superior courts into 58 trial courts, one in each county, and the  
7 transfer of California's court facilities from county to state  
8 ownership under the management of the judicial branch; and

9 WHEREAS, Chief Justice George has fought to advance and  
10 protect full and equal access to a fair and impartial justice system  
11 by promoting statewide programs to serve the needs of all  
12 Californians, including those whose access may be limited by  
13 language, disability, cultural unfamiliarity, or a lack of resources  
14 to employ counsel. He has been a consistent voice for the  
15 unrepresented and for the fundamental importance of judicial  
16 impartiality and independence from inappropriate influences; and

17 WHEREAS, Chief Justice George has been a driving force  
18 behind myriad branchwide initiatives, including self-help programs,  
19 pro bono services, education in fairness and cultural competency  
20 for judges and court staff, public funding for legal services,  
21 interpreter services, one-day or one-trial jury service, and plain  
22 English jury instructions. He has worked to promote the fair and  
23 respectful treatment of all, thereby increasing not only access to  
24 justice, but also the public's respect for the operation and integrity  
25 of the judicial branch of government; now, therefore, be it

26 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
27 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the  
28 Civic Center Complex, comprised of the Earl Warren Building  
29 and the Hiram W. Johnson State Office Building, located at the  
30 Civic Center Plaza in the City and County of San Francisco, as  
31 the Ronald M. George Justice Center, in deep and lasting honor  
32 to the extraordinary and exemplary service of Chief Justice Ronald  
33 M. George as California's 27th Chief Justice; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
35 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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